

Agency: 477 Department of Fish and Wildlife

Decision Package Code/Title: AJ Pt. Whitney Staff Consolidation

Budget Period: 2011-13

Budget Level: PL - Performance Level

Recommendation Summary Text:

WDFW requests increased spending authority in the State Wildlife Account to expend lease revenues collected at the Point Whitney shellfish facility in Brinnon. There is a time sensitive opportunity for WDFW to expand the current lease at Point Whitney and increase lease revenues. The lease expansion would also reduce the maintenance and repair costs to WDFW at this site. The revenue collected would be used to improve operational efficiency and effectiveness by relocating WDFW staff stationed at Point Whitney to the greater Port Townsend area and consolidating them with other WDFW staff located on the Olympic Peninsula.

Fiscal Detail

| Operating Expenditures | <u>FY 2012</u> | <u>FY 2013</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 104-1 State Wildlife Account-State | 30,000 | 120,000 | 150,000 |
| Total Cost | 30,000 | 120,000 | 150,000 |

Revenue

| <u>Fund</u> | <u>Source</u> | <u>FY 2012</u> | <u>FY 2013</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 104 State Wildlife Accou | 0402 Income From Property | 30,000 | 120,000 | 150,000 |
| Total Revenue | | 30,000 | 120,000 | 150,000 |

Package Description:

A private commercial fish grower leases space at WDFW's Point Whitney shellfish facility in Brinnon to raise juvenile sablefish (black cod). The revenues from this lease are deposited into the Department's Wildlife Account are used to recover costs associated with the lease. Currently, the revenue collected exceeds the costs of the lease.

The commercial grower has approached WDFW with a request to expand their operations at Point Whitney. The proposed expansion would effectively displace WDFW staff currently stationed at this satellite facility. In addition, the request is time sensitive to ensure a smooth and coordinated expansion in the commercial grower's operations. Delays will force the grower to seek relief elsewhere to meet their expanding business needs.

The revenue generated by this lease provides WDFW with an opportunity to increase operational efficiency and effectiveness by consolidating and relocating several satellite offices, including Point Whitney, to a more urban setting. The Point Whitney facility and location are not essential to the business conducted by the staff stationed there. In fact, the remote location creates logistical, operational, maintenance, and security challenges.

WDFW is proposing to grant an expanded lease to the commercial grower and consolidate several WDFW satellite offices on the

Olympic Peninsula, including staff stationed at Point Whitney, to the greater Port Townsend area. The cost of office relocation and leasing new office space for staff would be paid for with the lease revenue collected from the commercial grower lease agreement. Any remaining revenue would be used for resource conservation and management, providing public outreach and education, and improving public service.

The commercial grower would expand their base of operations at Point Whitney and pay increased lease fees (illustrated in the dollar figures provided).

WDFW would relocate Point Whitney staff to the greater Port Townsend area and consolidate them with enforcement and salmon management staff in the area.

WDFW operational efficiency and effectiveness will be improved through staff consolidation in a more urban area.

Lease fees would pay for office relocation and operations.

This office consolidation will:

- (1) Increase collaboration between WDFW programs (shellfish, finfish, and enforcement).
- (2) Increase opportunities to partner and collaborate with other agencies and local non government organizations on marine education and stewardship programs. Potential partners include: Fort Warden State Park, North Olympic Salmon Collation, Jefferson County Marine Resources Committee, Port Townsend Marine Science Center, the Northwest Straits Commission, and the Northwest Maritime center, all located in the greater Port Townsend area.
- (3) Improve public access to staff.
- (4) Reduce staff commute and work travel distances and fuel consumption.
- (5) Provide better vendor and service center options at a lower cost.
- (6) Improve work safety and state resource protection by moving away from a remote location.

The commercial grower's request for expansion is time sensitive and they would like assurances by December 2011. WDFW would relocate the Point Whitney office and staff as soon as authorization is received to expend the lease revenue collected at Point Whitney and the lease agreement is updated.

Name and Phone Number of Subject Matter Expert:

Craig Burley, Fish Management Division Manager (360) 902-2784

Narrative Justification and Impact Statement

What specific performance outcomes does the agency expect?

Improved operational effectiveness and efficiency.

This decision package specifically benefits legislative district 24.

Performance Measure Detail

Activity: A043 Fisheries Management

Incremental Changes

No measures submitted for package

Is this decision package essential to implement a strategy identified in the agency's strategic plan?

This decision package contributes to WDFW 2011-17 Strategic Plan, Goal 4: Use sound business practices and maintain a dedicated workforce.

Does this decision package provide essential support to one of the Governor's priorities?

This decision contributes to the Governor's goal of improving state government efficiency.

Does this decision package make key contributions to statewide results? Would it rate as a high priority in the Priorities of Government process?

Improved state government efficiency and effectiveness would contribute to government accountability in the statewide results and would rate as a high priority in the POG process. The above narrative describes the expected improvements as a result of this decision package.

What are the other important connections or impacts related to this proposal?

Moving WDFW staff to an urban location would provide increased opportunities to partner with other state or local entities for essential work and operations, increasing efficiency and fostering collaboration. Access to better services will also improve operations and reduce costs.

What alternatives were explored by the agency, and why was this alternative chosen?

WDFW attempted to co-locate with another state agency or local organization. While there were no immediate opportunities that were cost effective, that option is still a long-term goal.

Maintaining our current office space and operations at Point Whitney is not a good, cost effective alternative for the long-term. The present location causes logistical, operational, security, and personnel challenges.

What are the consequences of not funding this package?

WDFW would lose an opportunity to partner with a Washington based business venture to align the unique geo-physical features at Point Whitney with commercial grower and fishery operations.

WDFW will be faced with maintaining office space at Point Whitney at an increased operational and capital cost, and diminished public service. This remote location creates logistical, operational, maintenance, and public safety challenges that increase costs, causes long trip and travel commutes for the public and staff, and makes retention of staff difficult.

It is an aging facility (built in the early 1950's) that will require substantial capital upgrades and renovations, both in the short and long-term. Areas of immediate need include repairs to fix a leaking roof and upgrades to correct malfunctioning phone and heating systems.

What is the relationship, if any, to the state's capital budget?

None at this time. However, if we maintain a presence at Point Whitney there will be capital costs associated with facility upgrades and renovations.

What changes would be required to existing statutes, rules, or contracts, in order to implement the change?

None.

Expenditure and revenue calculations and assumptions

Anticipated lease revenues total \$10,000 per month. The annual revenue would total \$10,000/mo. x 12 = \$120,000.

Office move and lease expenditures have not been negotiated at this time, so we are unable to provide specific details.

Which costs and functions are one-time? Which are ongoing? What are the budget impacts in future biennia?

Moving costs are one-time expenditures. Office leases would be ongoing, as would any resource conservation and management, public

outreach and education, and public service costs. Expectations are that the impacts to future biennia would be budget neutral.

| <u>Object Detail</u> | | <u>FY 2012</u> | <u>FY 2013</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| E | Goods And Services | 30,000 | 120,000 | 150,000 |